

North Carolina (Bromley, 1931), where it has not been recorded since. However, it has been observed recently in Texas (Taber & Fleenor, 2003) and Arkansas (Barnes, 2007). All other sightings have been in June and July, so the Virginia record represents a late date. The prey item in the photographs can be identified as an ichneumonid wasp (R. Kula, pers. comm.). The habitat where *Orthogonis* was observed at Cherry Orchard Bog NAP can be generally described as a closed-canopy mesic woods, somewhat similar to the habitat described in Arkansas (Barnes et al., 2007), but the topography here is essentially flat.

Leptogastrinae

Leptogaster murina Loew **New state record!**

This is considered a Midwestern species, but there is one other record for the eastern United States from Maryland (Scarborough, 1974). I have collected *L. murina* at three sites in Virginia, including native grasslands at the Radford Army Ammunition Plant in *Montgomery Co.* (3 June 2010), an old field in *Alleghany Co.* (31 May 2010), and a site in *Goochland Co.* (16 May 2013). Three specimens from the latter site were donated to the NMNH.

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© 2014 Virginia Natural History Society
- HARRIS' CHECKERSPOT (*CHLOSYPNE HARRISII*), A NORTHERN BUTTERFLY NEW TO THE FAUNA OF VIRGINIA (LEPIDOPTERA: NYMPHALIDAE). — Harris' Checkerspot (*Chlosyne harrisii*) is a distinctively patterned black and orange butterfly that ranges across Canada from Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island west to Manitoba and south in the United States to Ohio and northern Pennsylvania, with disjunct populations in northeastern West Virginia (Opler, 1992; Allen, 1997; Cech & Tudor, 2005). The species has one adult generation per year in early summer and the communal larvae build silken nests on the sole known hostplant, flat-topped white aster (*Doellingeria umbellata*, formerly *Aster umbellatus*). Reported habitats of *C. harrisii* include wet pastures, marshes, bogs, and damp meadows (Opler, 1992; Allen, 1997; Cech & Tudor, 2005). Allen (1997) noted that adults can be found nectaring in open or brushy upland areas and are often found along road banks.
- Although the closely related and similar Silvery Checkerspot (*Chlosyne nycteis*) is rather common and widespread in Virginia (Clark & Clark, 1951; Pavulaan, 1997; personal observations of authors), especially in the mountains and portions of the Piedmont, Harris' Checkerspot has not been reported previously from Virginia. Allen (1997) recorded *C. harrisii* from four montane counties in northeastern West Virginia, two of which (Pendleton and Pocahontas) border on Virginia. Thus, despite the lack of documented records, it seemed possible that this species might occur in the mountains



Fig. 1. Dorsal view of adult *Chlosyne harrisii* from Highland County, Virginia (photo by Allen Bryan).

of western Virginia in areas where the hostplant is present. Allen (1997) noted that *C. harrisii* is common near Spruce Knob Lake in Randolph Co., West Virginia, but it has not been found by SMR about 15-20 km (9-12 mi) farther south in the Laurel Fork Recreation Area of the George Washington National Forest in extreme northwestern Highland Co., Virginia despite numerous visits spanning the past two decades.

On 10 June 2007, one of us (AB) observed and photographed (Fig. 1) several adult Harris' Checkerspots in a beaver meadow along Straight Fork in northwestern Highland County, apparently the first documented record of this species in Virginia. We visited the site together two weeks later (23 June 2007), but did not find *C. harrisii* on that date, perhaps indicating that the flight season was over or nearly so. A few adults of *C. harrisii* have been found in this same area in subsequent years by us (mostly AB) and several other observers on the following dates: 6 June 2008, 11, 13, and 27 June 2009, 2 and 5 June 2010, 17 and 23 June 2011, and 15 June 2013. Unpublished reports of butterflies observed or collected in this same wetland between the mid-1970s and late 1990s, including visits on 12 and 22 June 1974, 17 July 1982, 22 June 1989, 21 June 1995, and 23 June 1998, do not include *C. harrisii*. Perhaps most of these surveys occurred near the end or after the relatively short flight season of this species.

On 7 June 2010, SMR and Irvine Wilson discovered a second Virginia population of *C. harrisii* in wet meadows along Back Creek west of Hightown, also in northwestern Highland County. A total of 10 adults was observed on that date. A return visit to this site by SMR three weeks later (29 June 2010) did not yield any observations of *C. harrisii*, but several adults were found during the period of 6-10 June 2011. One adult

was observed nectaring on Pennsylvania Blackberry (*Rubus pensilvanicus*) (Fig. 2). This is the southernmost known site for *C. harrisii* in Virginia and perhaps its entire range.

On 15 June 2011, SMR discovered a third Virginia population of *C. harrisii* along an unnamed headwater tributary of Laurel Fork within several hundred meters of the West Virginia state line. This is apparently the largest of the three known Virginia populations of *C. harrisii*; more than 20 adults were seen on this date and at least 25 were observed the following day. Adults were nectaring on white clover (*Trifolium repens*) flowers in the lawn of a pond-side cabin, occasionally chasing off conspecifics to gain access to flowers.

Harris' Checkerspot is a peripheral species in Virginia, barely occurring within the state's borders and occupying a very limited portion of northwestern Highland County. All three known locations are within 5 km (3 mi) of the West Virginia state line, and within 10 km (6 mi) of one another. Elevations of these sites range from approximately 884 to 1128 meters (2900-3700 feet) above sea level. Other northern, state-rare butterflies that occur syntopically with *C. harrisii* at one or more sites in Virginia include Pink-edged Sulphur (*Colias interior*), Atlantis Fritillary (*Speyeria*



Fig. 2. Ventral view of adult *Chlosyne harrisii* nectaring on Pennsylvania Blackberry (*Rubus pensilvanicus*) in Highland County, Virginia (photo by Steven Roble).

atlantis), Silver-bordered Fritillary (*Boloria selene*), Two-spotted Skipper (*Euphyes bimacula*), and Long Dash (*Polites mystic*). The diurnal arctiid moth *Ctenucha virginica*, another northern species, was collected at one site and Baltimore Checkerspot (*Euphydryas phaeton*), a declining butterfly in the region, was recorded at two of the *C. harrisii* sites.

The Virginia population is assignable to the subspecies *Chlosyne harrisii liggetti* (Avinoff), which is known to inhabit the northeastern United States. It is larger and dorsally darker than the more northerly distributed nominate subspecies. A voucher specimen from the Back Creek site will be deposited in the Virginia Museum of Natural History, Martinsville, VA.

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SOME RECORDS OF CHEWING LICE FROM CARNIVORES IN VIRGINIA. — Chewing lice are insects placed in three suborders of the Order Phthiraptera. Most species parasitize birds and thus, some refer to those as the "bird lice". However, in North America a few species are ectoparasites of rodents, ungulates, and carnivores. While surveying mammals in Virginia for fleas I also encountered a few chewing lice. Three species of trichodectid chewing lice belonging to the suborder Ischnocera from carnivores are here reported, all of which are new state records.

All of the host mammals were road kills and were brushed or combed for ectoparasites. Lice were preserved in 70% ethanol and then processed by decolorization in 5% KOH overnight, dehydrated in an ethanol series, cleared in xylene, and mounted on slides in Canada balsam. Identifications were made using the key and illustrations in Whitaker (1982). All specimens have been deposited in the collections at the Virginia Museum of Natural History, Martinsville, VA.

Stachiella octomaculatus (Paine, 1912) is a parasite of Raccoons, *Procyon lotor* as documented by Emerson (1972) and Price et al. (2003). Three of 31 (10%) Raccoons were infested from these localities: 1♂ 4♀ ex *P. lotor*, 23 September 1982, New Kent, New Kent Co., VA; 1♂ 2♀ ex *P. lotor*, 15 October 1987, Annandale, Fairfax Co., VA; 8♂ 9♀ ex *P. lotor*, 1 March 1992, Troutdale, Smyth Co., VA. Raccoons from Fairfax Co. (n=26), and one each from Arlington, Fauquier, and Prince William counties were not infested.

Stachiella larseni Emerson, 1962 is a host-specific parasite of American Mink, *Neovison vison* according to Emerson (1972) and Price et al. (2003). Only 2 American Minks were examined, one of which (50%) was infested; 1♂ 4♀ and 1 nymph ex *N. vison*, 22 February 1997, Cross Junction, Frederick Co., VA. Another mink from Dinwiddie Co. was not infested.

Neotrichodectes mephitis (Packard, 1873) is a parasite of skunks and has been taken from the Striped Skunk, *Mephitis mephitis* and the Hooded Skunk, *Mephitis macroura* as documented by Emerson (1972) and Price et al. (2003). In this study 2 of 7 (29%) Striped Skunks were infested from these localities: 4♂ 21♀ ex *M. mephitis*, 10 November 1982, Bull Run, Prince William Co., VA; 2♀ ex *M. mephitis*, 19 September 1983, Seven Fountains, Shenandoah Co., VA. Three Striped Skunks from Fairfax Co. and one each from Fauquier and Highland counties were not infested.

Other species of chewing lice are known to parasitize other carnivore species in North America but